

Remarks

Claims 1 and 15 have been amended to incorporate the text found in dependent claims 2 and 3 as well as 16 and 17, respectively. Claims 2, 3, 11, 16, 17, 25, and 29-40 have been canceled. Claims 1, 4-10, 12-15, 18-24, and 26-28 remain pending in this application.

The Applicant gratefully acknowledges the Examiner's indication that claims 3 and 17 would be allowable if rewritten into independent form with the language from the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 1 has been amended to include the claim language previously found in claims 2 and 3. Similarly, claim 15 has been amended to include the claim language previously found in claims 16 and 17. As such, independent claims 1 and 15 as amended overcome all prior rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) and are now allowable.

Claims 4-10 and 12-14 depend from claim 1 and therefore are allowable over Anuff '628 for the same reasons that claim 1 is allowable. Claims 18-24 and 26-28 depend from claim 15 and therefore are allowable over Anuff '628 for the same reasons that claim 15 is allowable. Therefore, Anuff '628 fails to teach the present invention as claimed in claims 1, 4-10, 12-15, 18-24, and 26-28 and a notice of allowance is respectfully requested.

On the basis of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1, 4-10, 12-15, 18-24, and 26-28 are now believed to be in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

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